

Message Text

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15

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-04

IO-11 SAL-01 /043 W

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R 191100Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4606

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 0818

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS SN ID MY

SUBJECT: MALACCA STRAITS TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEME

REF: JAKARTA 1241

1. DURING CONVERSATION FEBRUARY 18, MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS ACTING DEPUTY SECRETARY RICHARD LAU INFORMED EMBOFF THAT NO DATE HAD YET BEEN SET FOR NEXT TRIPARTITE MEETING ON MALACCA STRAITS TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEME. MALAYSIANS, AS HOST FOR NEXT MEETING, HAD PROPOSED JANUARY SESSION IN KUALA LUMPUR, BUT INDONESIANS HAD STATED THAT DATES WERE INCONVENIENT, PERHAPS REFLECTING ABSENCE OF AGREED GOI POSITION ON UKC ISSUE REFERRED TO IN REFTEL.

2. ON UNDER-KEEL CLEARANCE (UKC) ISSUE, LAU INDICATED THAT SINGAPORE POSITION HAD BEEN REASONABLE AND CITED GOS MOVE FROM 2.5 TO 3-METER UKC IN SUPPORT OF HIS CONTENTION. HE ADDED THAT SINGAPORE WOULD CONTINUE TO BE REASONABLE BUT DEMURRED WHEN EMBOFF INQUIRED WHETHER GOS WOULD BE PREPARED TO MOVE TO UKC OF 3.5 OR 4 METERS. IMPLICATION OF LAU'S COMMENT AND IMMEDIATELY SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION, HOWEVER, WAS THAT THERE COULD BE SOME MORE GIVE IN GOS POSITION IN ORDER ACHIEVE AGREEMENT ON THIS ISSUE.

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LAU STATED BELIEF THAT TONNAGE RESTRICTION WOULD BE DROPPED

PROVIDED UKC PROBLEM CAN BE RESOLVED.

3. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, LAU ASSERTED THAT GOS POSITION REMAINED THAT ANY TRIPARTITELY AGREED TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEME WOULD HAVE TO BE SUBMITTED TO IMCO FOR APPROVAL. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE POINTED TO TEXT OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA OF 1974 NOTING THAT THIS CONVENTION, WHICH NOT YET IN FORCE, SPECIFIES THAT SUCH TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEMES ARE SUBJECT TO JURISDICTION OF IMCO.
HOLDRIDGE

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NNN

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